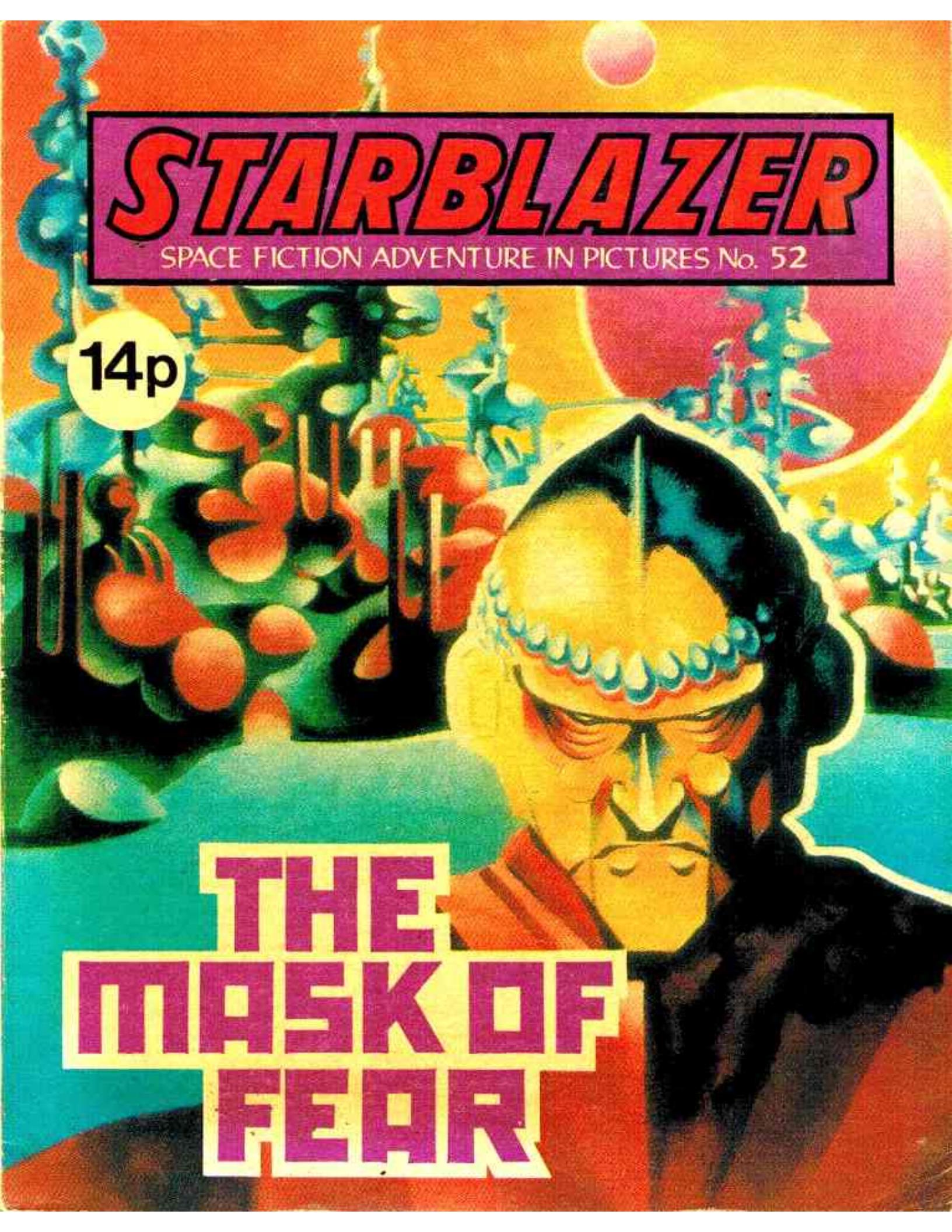


# **STARBLAZER**

SPACE FICTION ADVENTURE IN PICTURES No. 52

14p



**THE  
MASK OF  
FEAR**

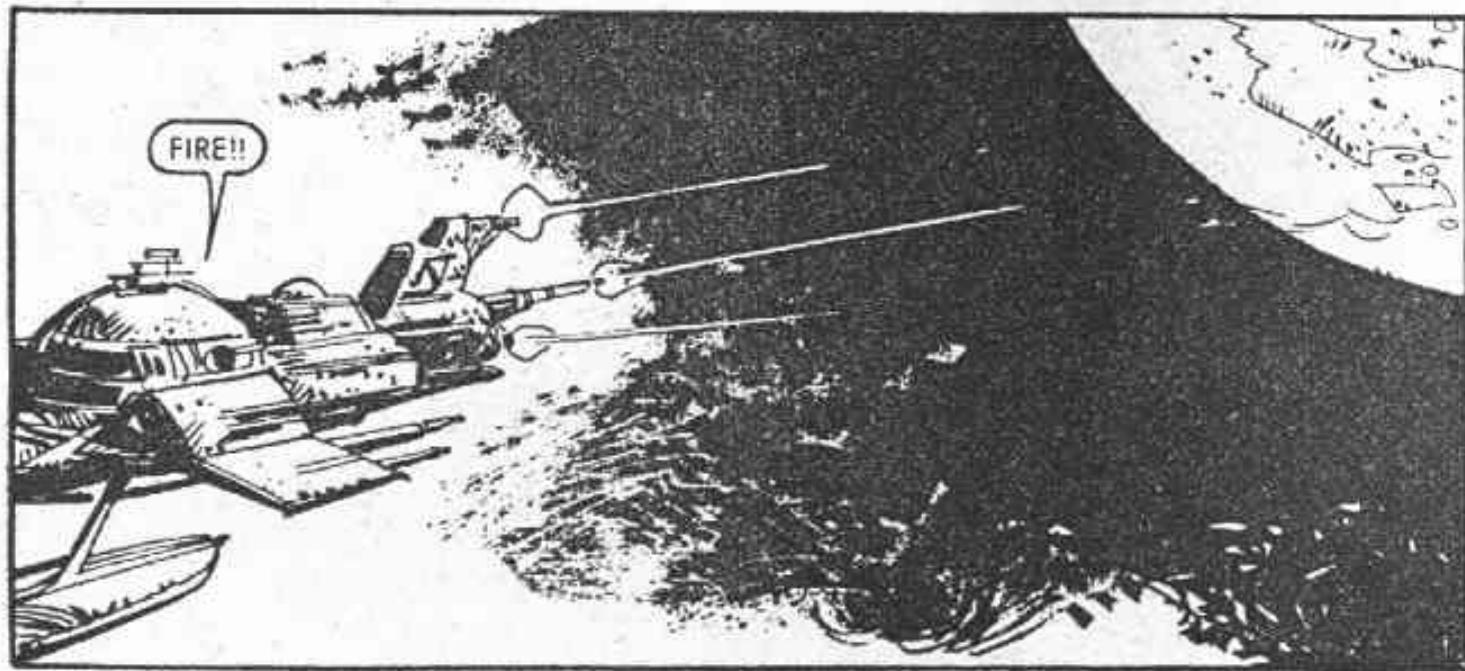
# STARBLAZER

BY 3000 A.D. MAN HAD SPREAD OUT AND  
COLONISED WORLDS AMONG THE STARS.  
WITH MEN, WENT CRIME. WEALTH AND  
POSITION WERE HIGHLY PRIZED, AND LIFE  
WAS CHEAP. DESPERATE MEN WOULD  
DESPERATE THINGS TO ACHIEVE WEALTH  
AND POSITION—EVEN DESTROY ENTIRE  
WORLDS.

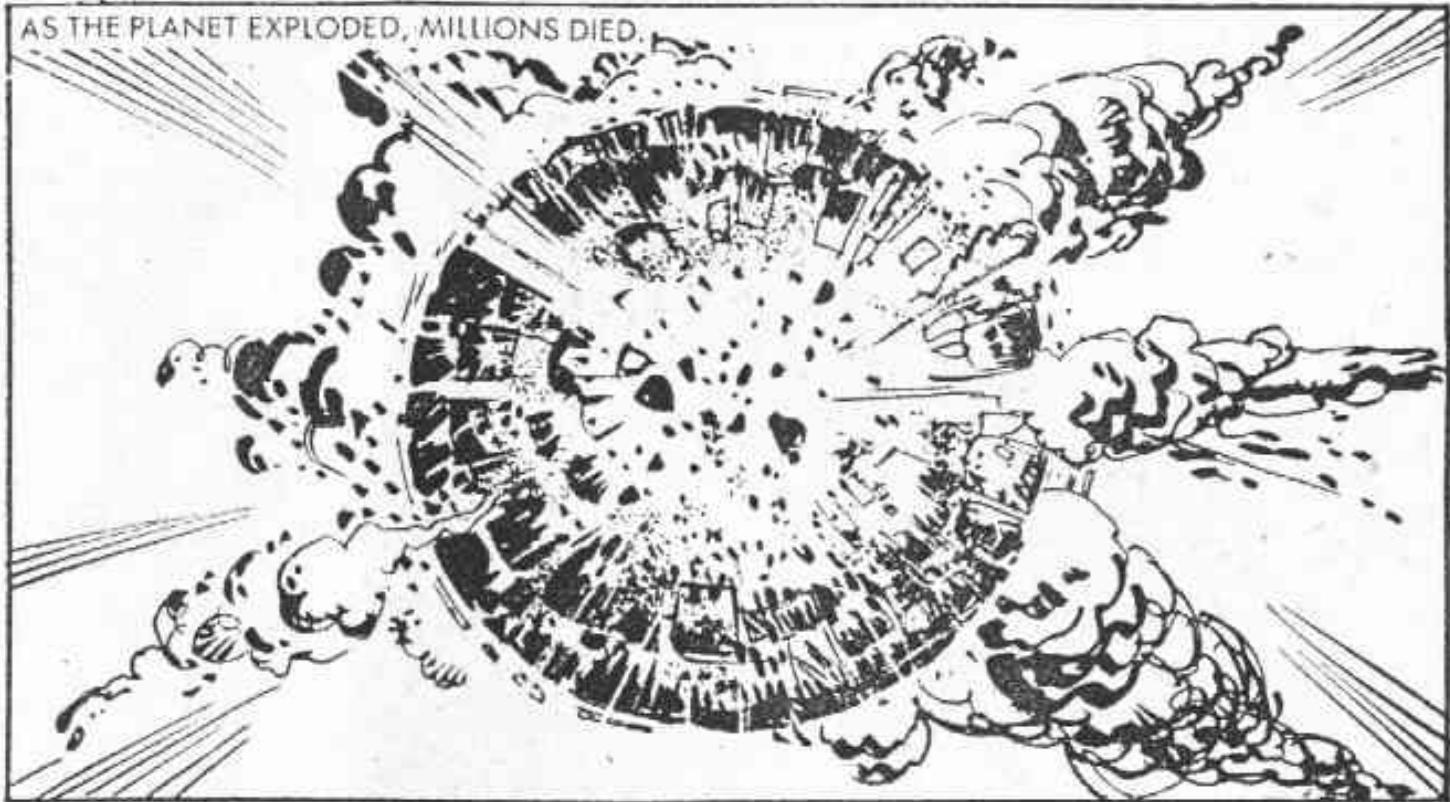
# The MASK OF FEAR



A SLEEK PRIVATE GUNSHIP APPROACHED THE  
PLANET DELTAN IN THE ORIONUS OMEGA NEBULA.



AS THE PLANET EXPLODED, MILLIONS DIED.



WE'VE JUST BECOME THE  
RICHEST MEN IN THE GALAXY!

YES, BUT WE'VE  
DESTROYED A WORLD  
AND ITS PEOPLE IN THE  
PROCESS.

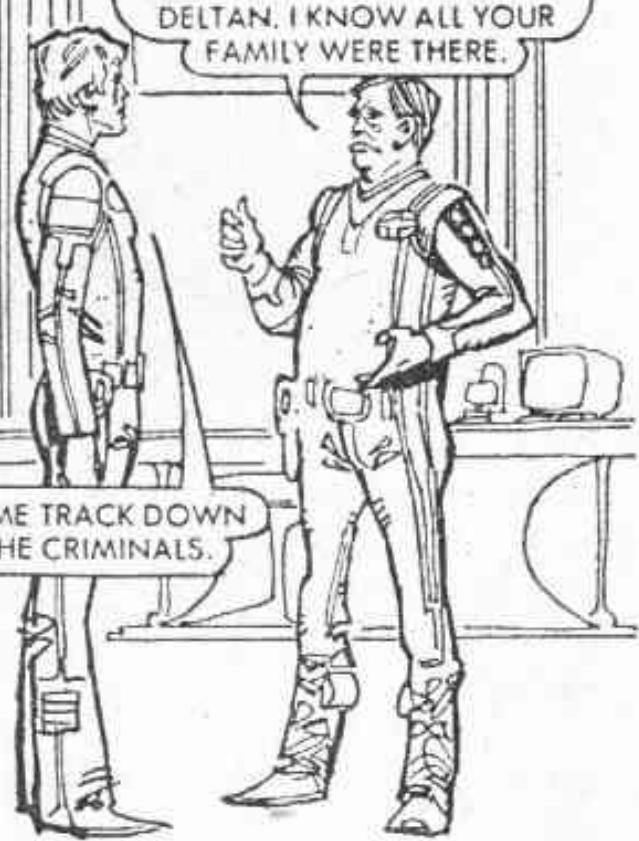


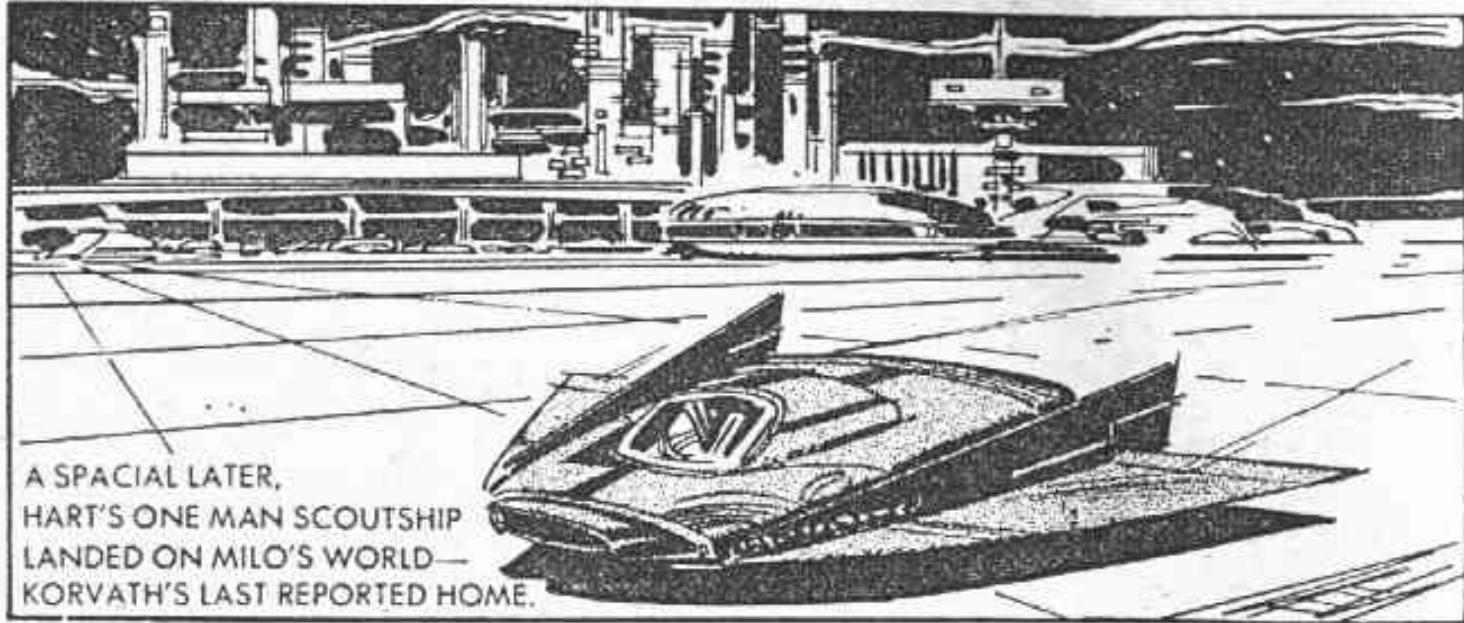
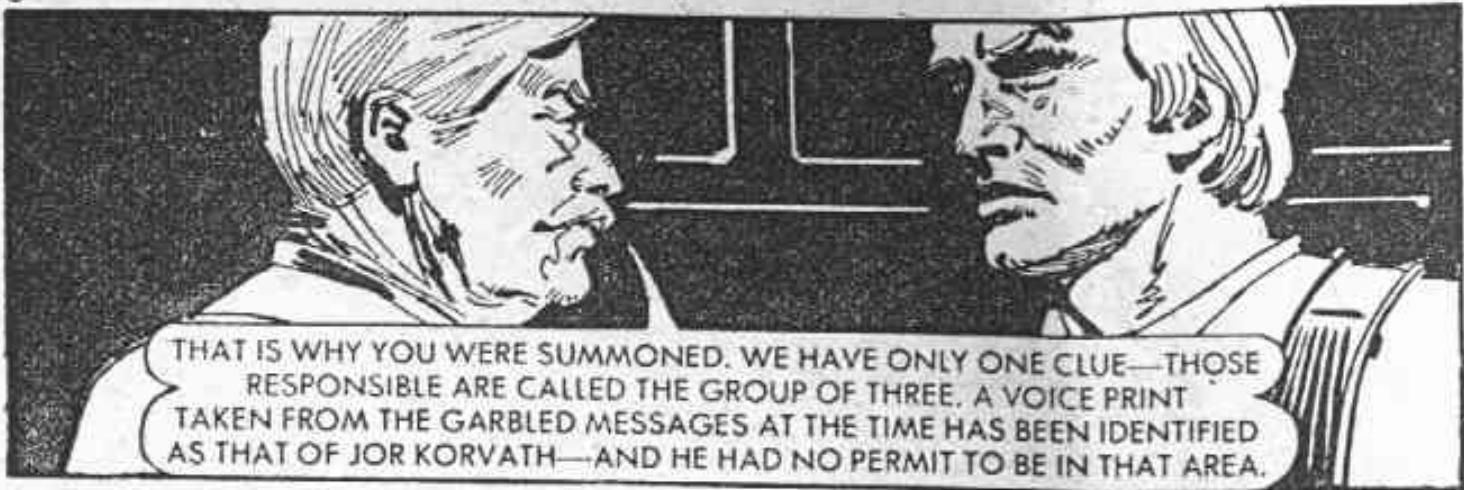
SO MUCH THE BETTER—NO  
WITNESSES. NOW SEND IN  
THE SCOOPS TO COLLECT  
THE CORE.

THE NEWS OF THE DELTAN DISASTER REACHED THE  
EARTH HQ OF THE GALACTIC SECURITY SERVICE.

HART TALLIS—I'M SORRY I HAD TO BE  
THE ONE TO TELL YOU ABOUT  
DELTAN. I KNOW ALL YOUR  
FAMILY WERE THERE.

LET ME TRACK DOWN  
THE CRIMINALS.

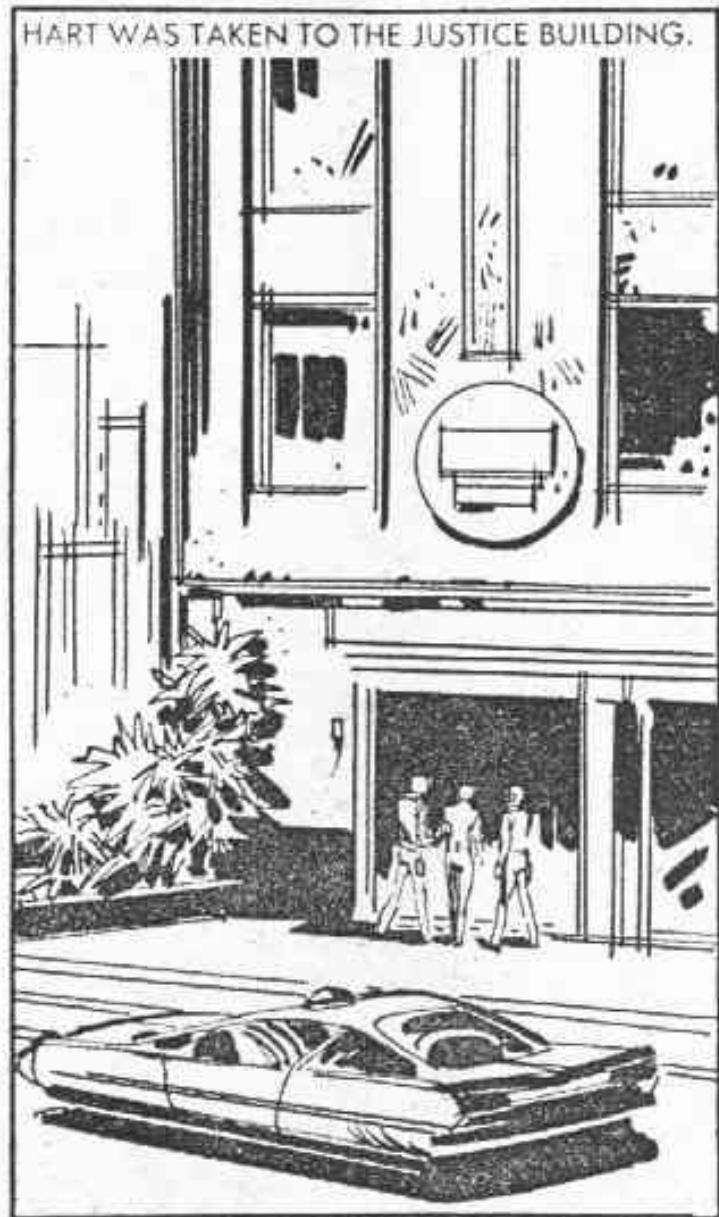




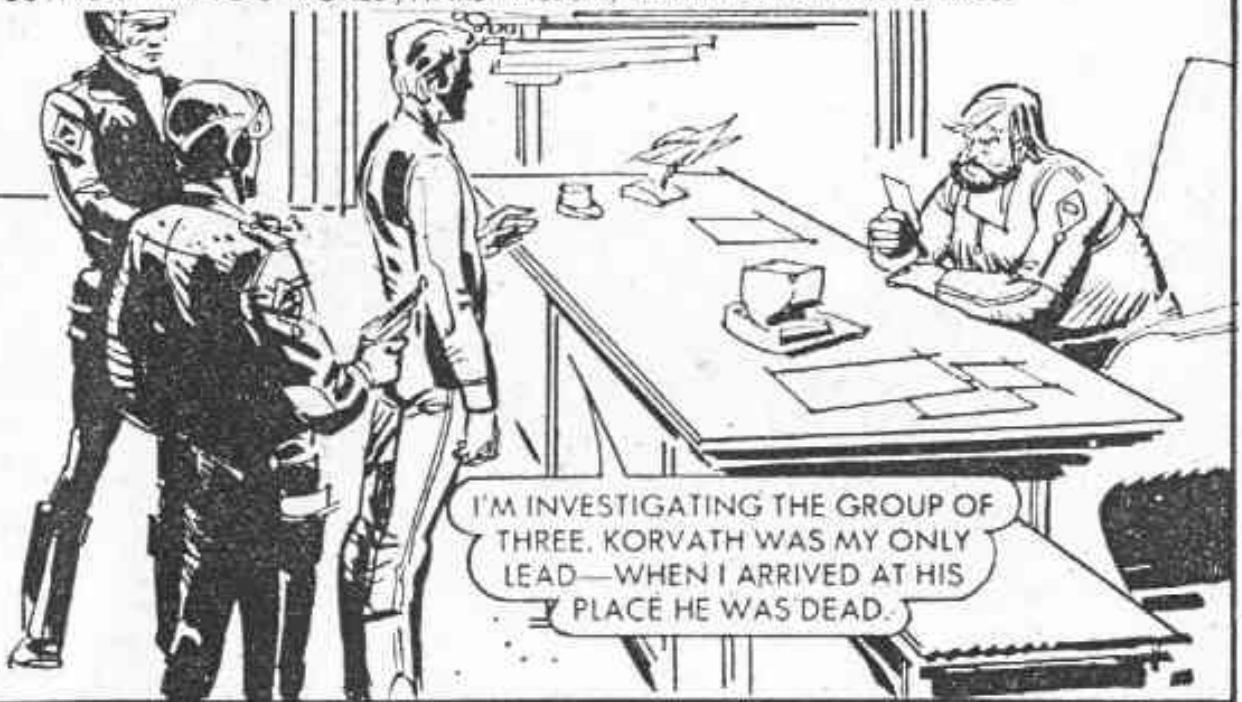


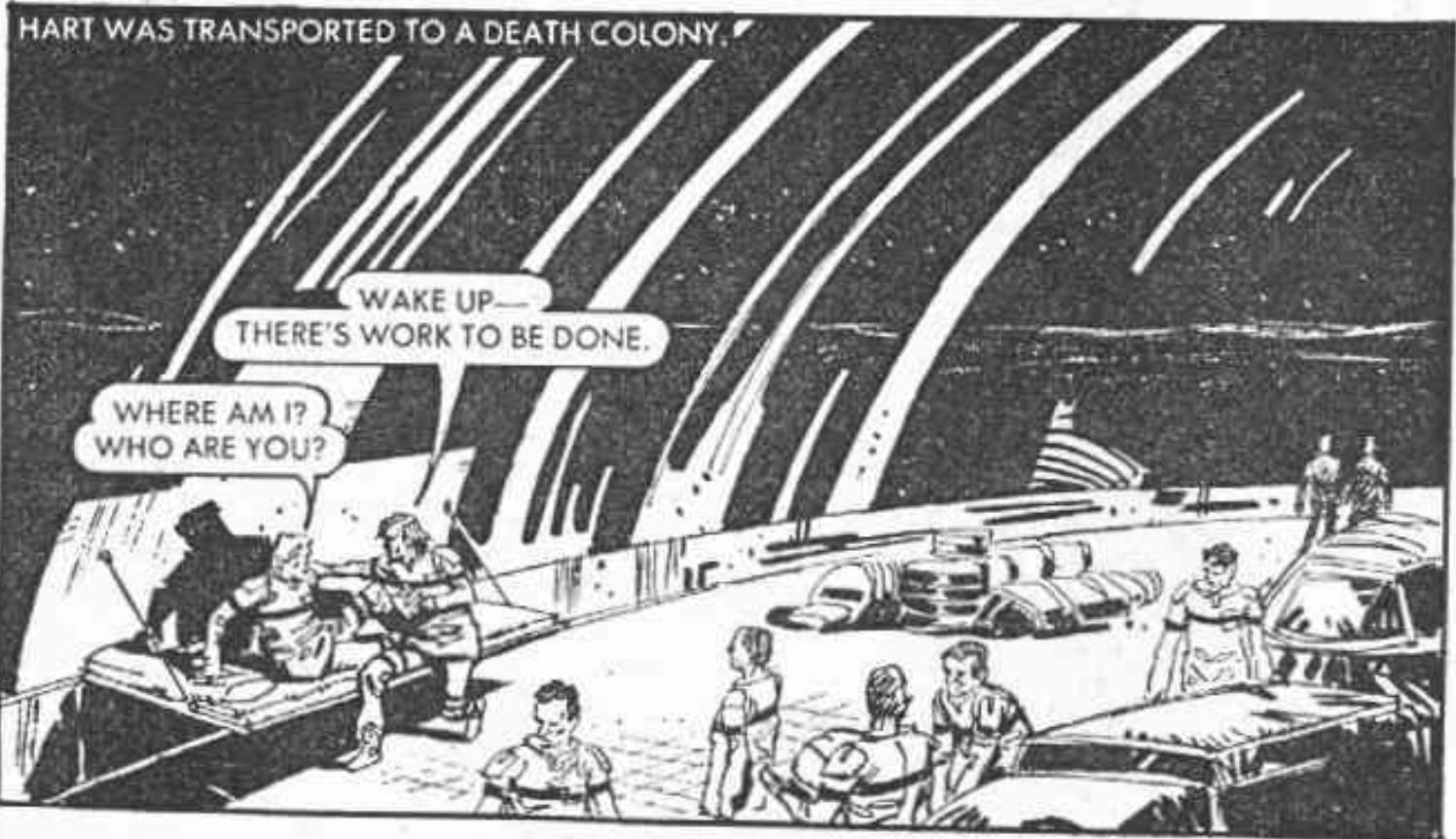






THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE ON MILO'S WORLD, HARJ WILLEM, LISTENED TO HART'S TALE.





I'M HAL ROAN, AND YOU'RE IN ALPHA  
MOON PRISON DEATH COLONY. WE HAVE TO  
WORK OUT THERE.



I HEAR YOU WERE WITH THE GALACTIC  
SECURITY SERVICE. FORGET THAT! NOW  
YOU'RE A URANIUM MINER, AND YOU  
HAVE TO WORK.

I DON'T SEE ANY GUARDS.









AT THE END OF THE DAY'S LABOUR—



IT'LL BE A MONTH BEFORE  
WE SEE THAT SHIP AGAIN!

AND WITH LUCK, WE'LL THEN  
BE LEAVING ON IT.

YOU'VE A PLAN?

YES—CARE TO TRY IT?

HART EXPLAINED HIS PLAN—AND WORK STARTED IMMEDIATELY.

REMEMBER, KEEP THEM SEPARATE!



A MONTH LATER, THEY HAD ENOUGH KRAI.

NOW, WHAT DO WE DO?

WE PUT HALF AT EACH END OF AN OLD AIR CYLINDER, SEPARATED BY A VACUUM, WITH A CHARGE AT EITHER END TO BLOW THE U-235 TOGETHER.



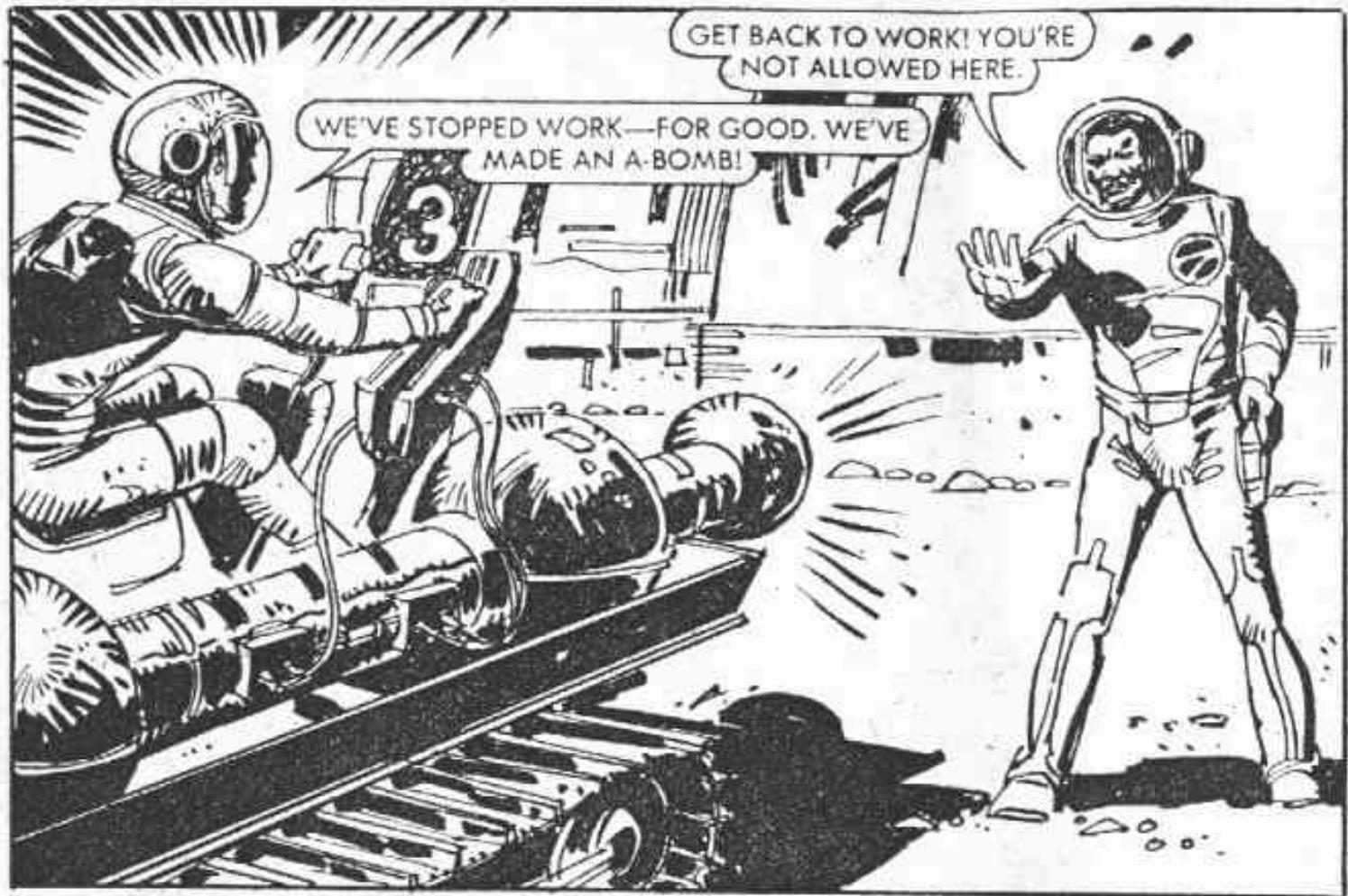
BY THE TIME THE AIR REPLENISHING CRAFT WAS DUE, THE BOMB WAS COMPLETE.

SO THAT'S IT!

YES, A CRUDE BUT WORKABLE A-BOMB.  
NOW WE HAVE TO MAKE USE OF IT.

RIGHT ON TIME THE CRAFT ARRIVED.

THAT'S IT! ACTION STATIONS.



THE PRISONERS BLASTED OFF IN THE CAPTURED SHIP...

THAT'S THE END OF THAT NIGHTMARE.

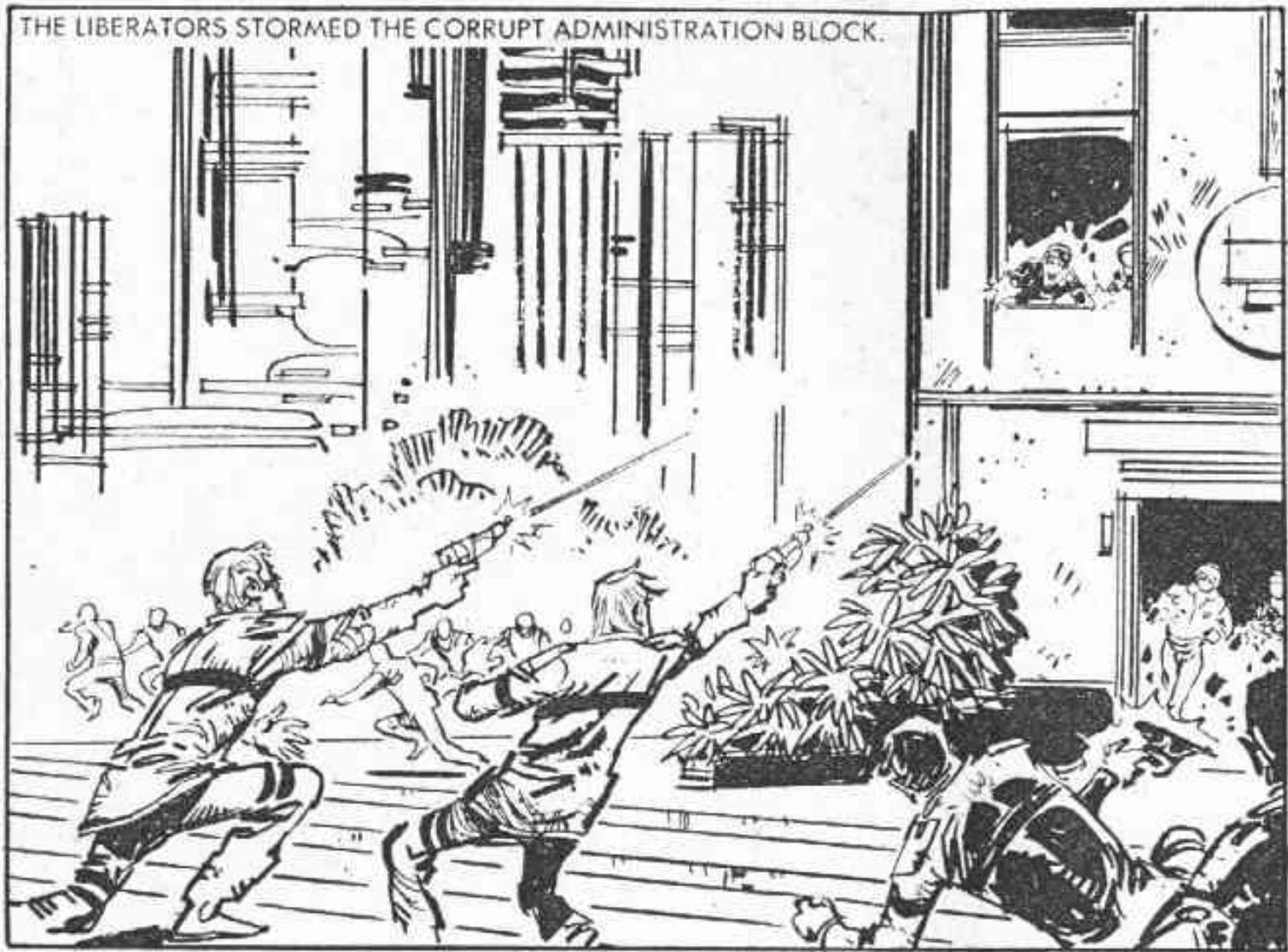


THE CRAFT LANDED ON MILO'S WORLD—

WE'VE RETURNED TO LIBERATE MILO'S WORLD.



THE LIBERATORS STORMED THE CORRUPT ADMINISTRATION BLOCK.



USING ALL HIS STRENGTH, HART BURST  
THROUGH A FORCE BARRIER.



I GIVE UP. DON'T SHOOT!



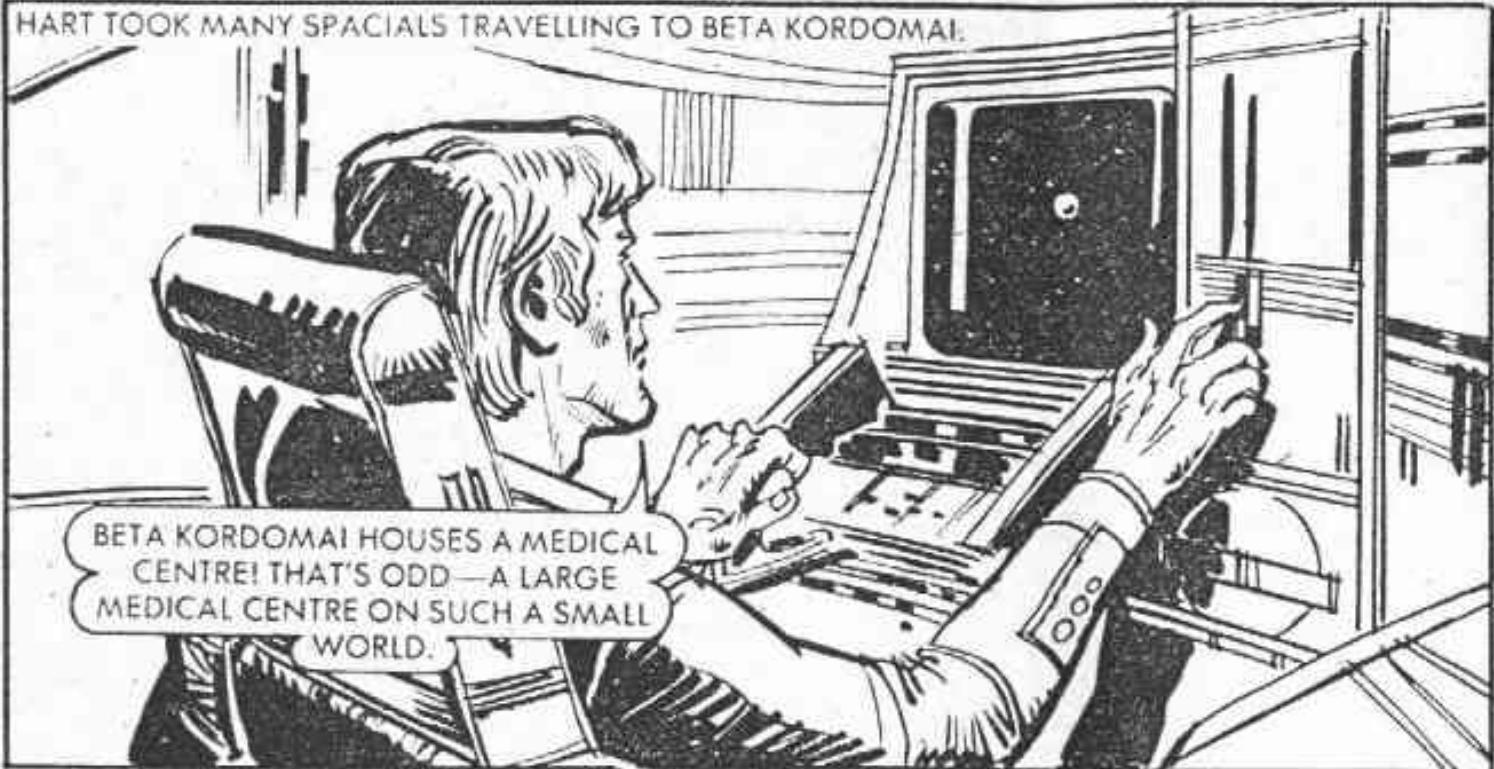


BUT KORVATH  
HAD NO INTENTION OF GIVING UP—



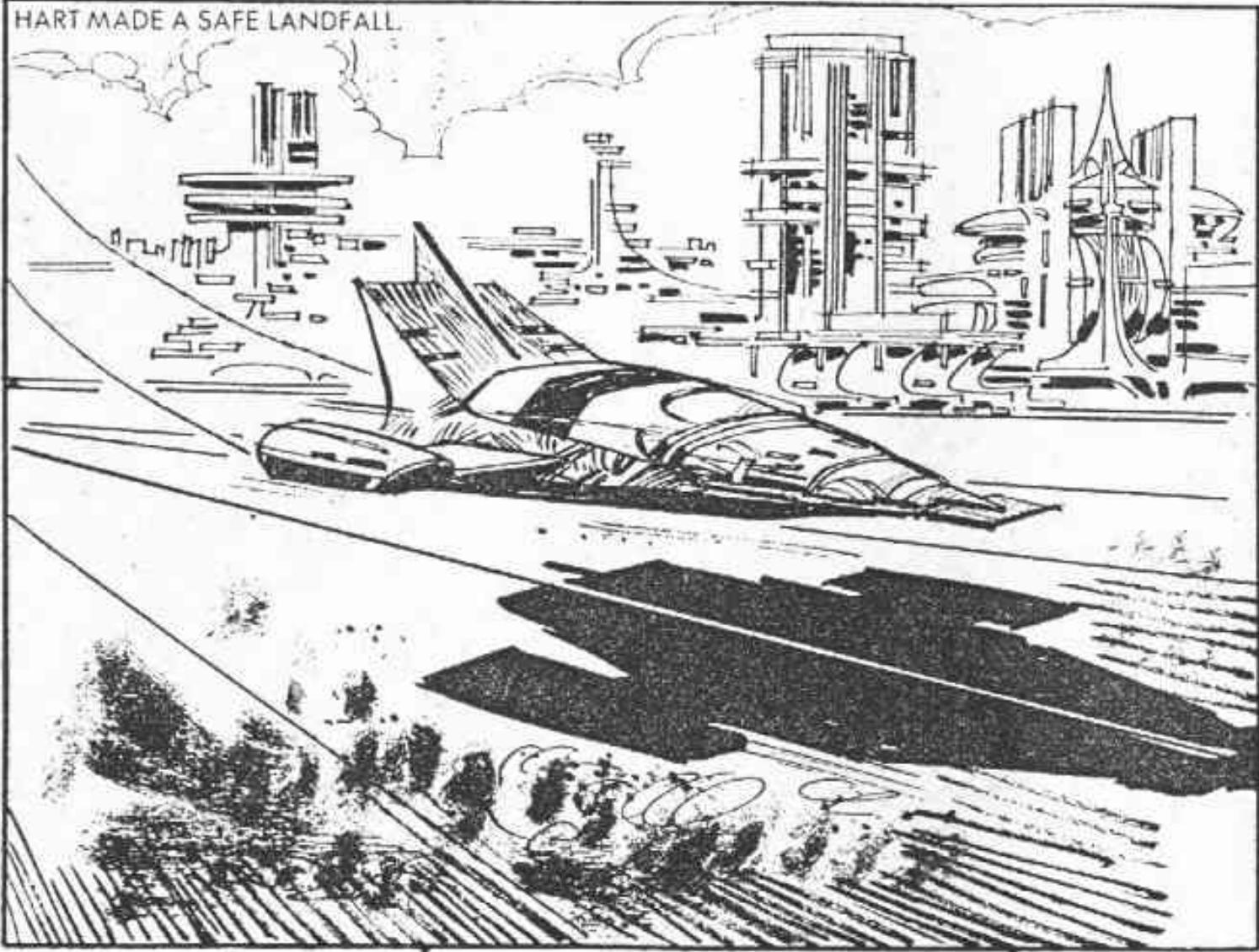


HART TOOK MANY SPACIALS TRAVELLING TO BETA KORDOMAI.



BETA KORDOMAI HOUSES A MEDICAL CENTRE! THAT'S ODD — A LARGE MEDICAL CENTRE ON SUCH A SMALL WORLD.

HART MADE A SAFE LANDFALL.

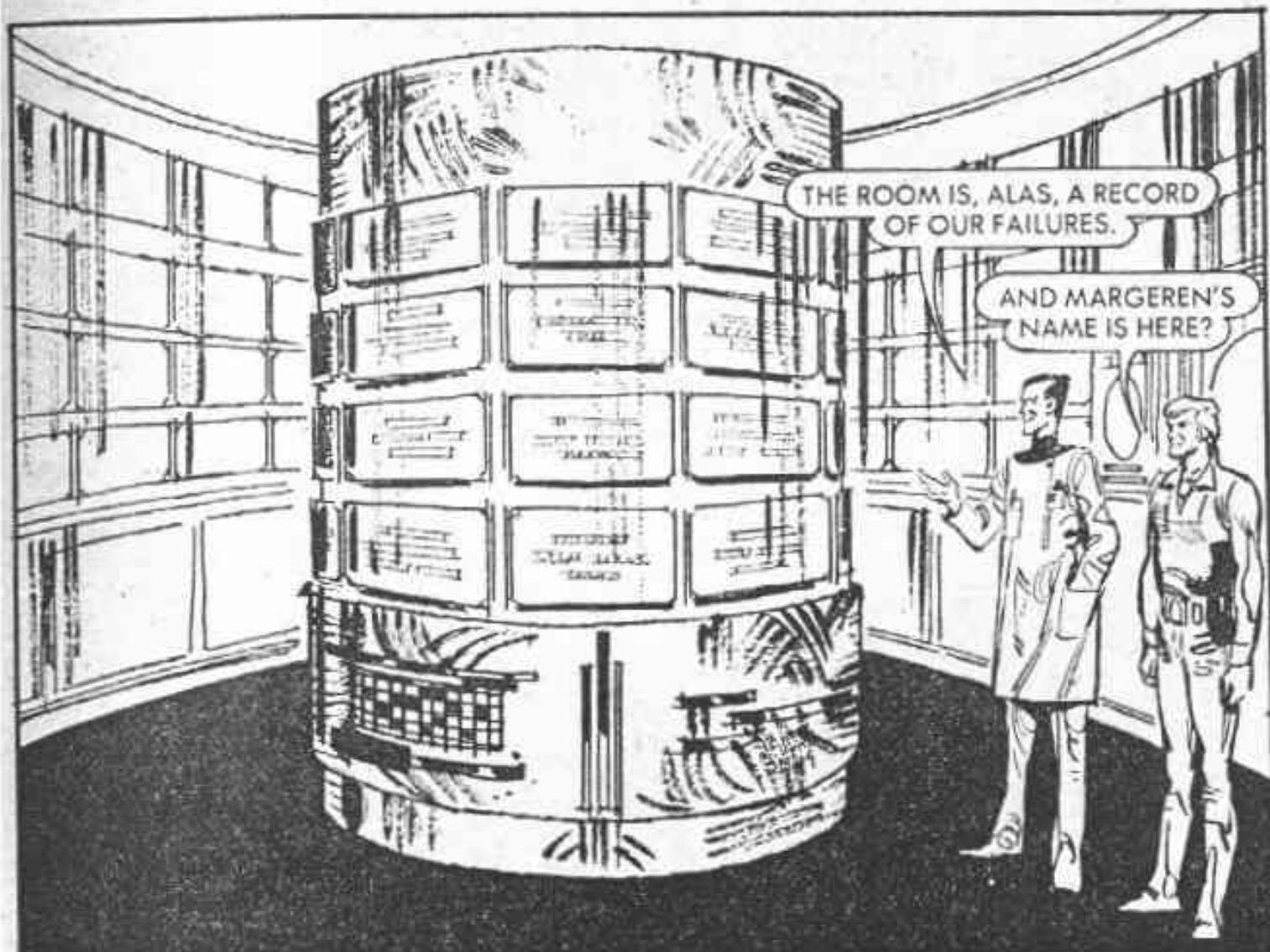


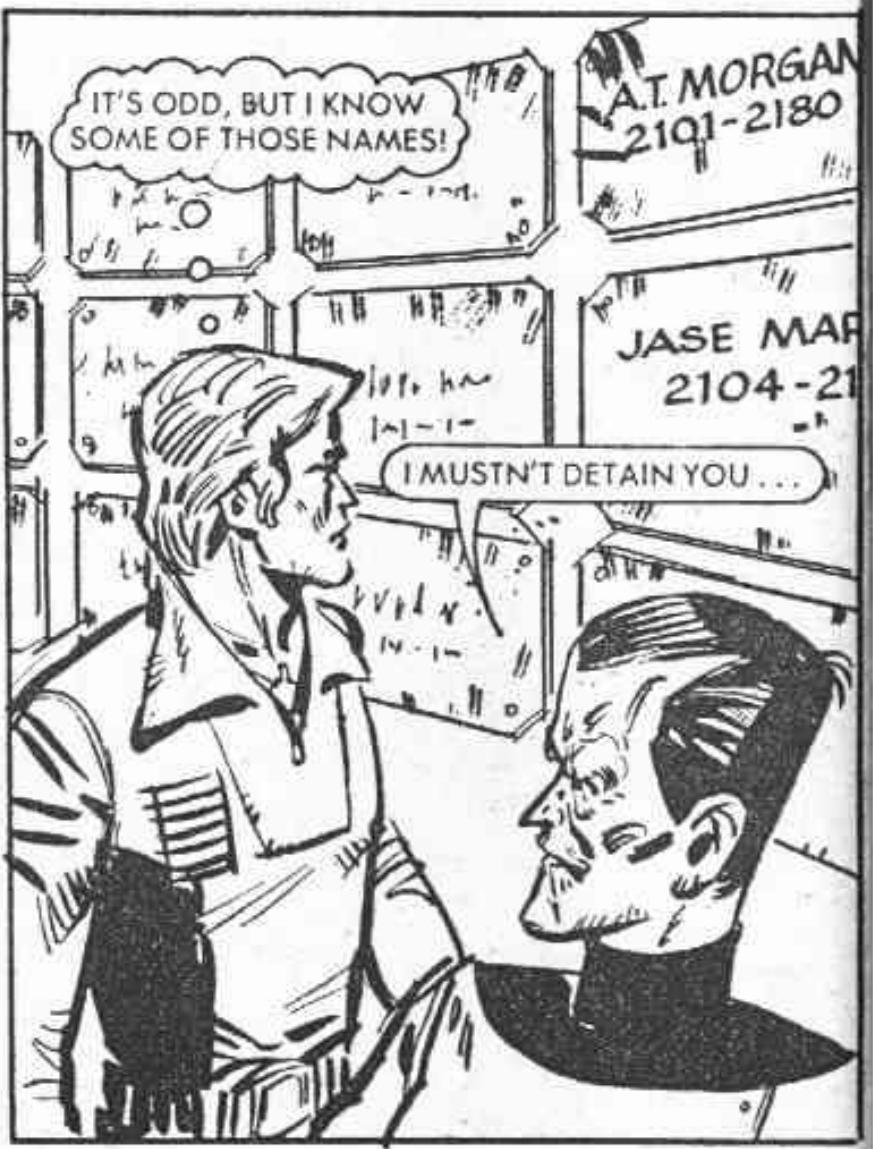
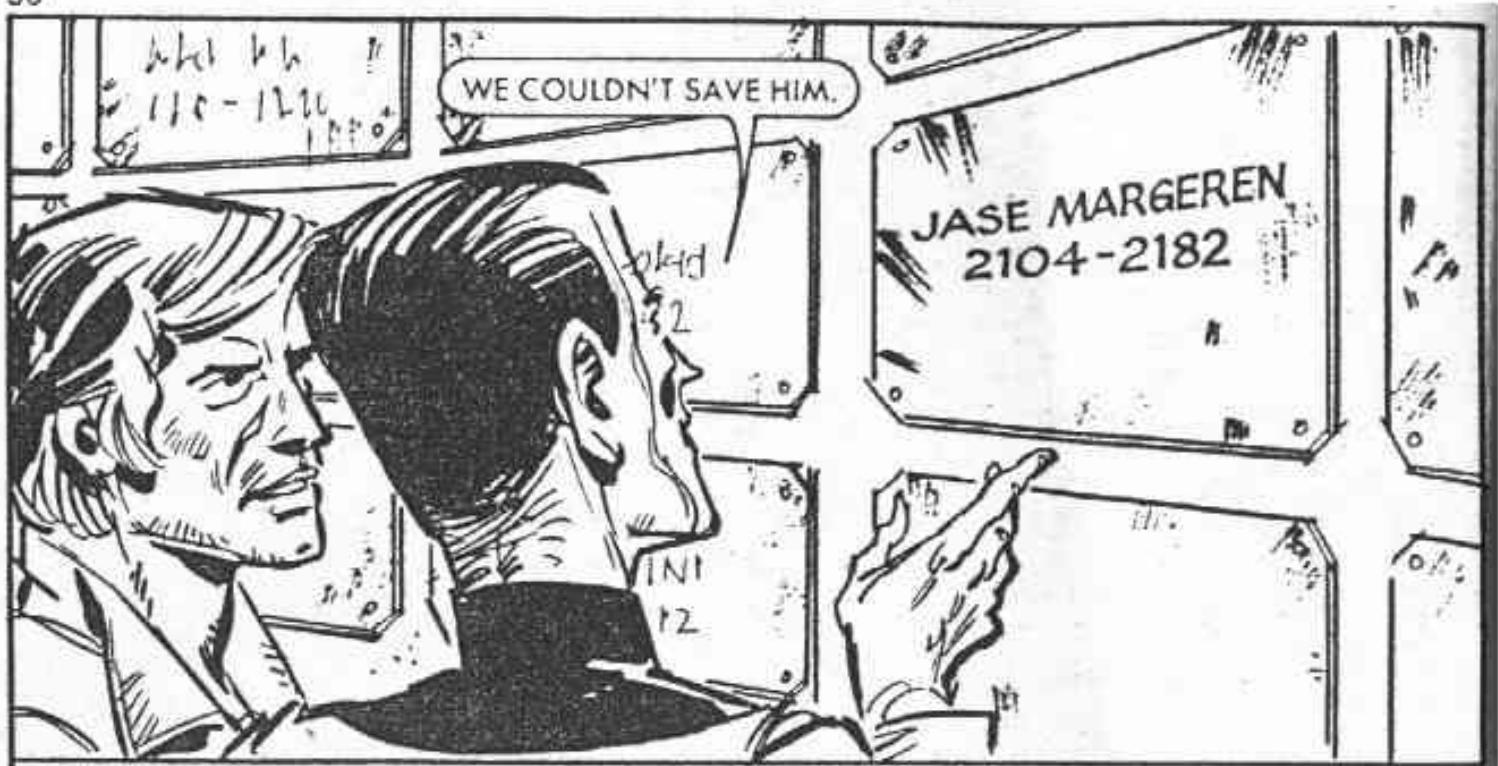




DR. EUTOME, THE DIRECTOR, ARRIVED.







HART BOARDED A CITIHOVER —

ALPHA CENTAURI HILTON, PLEASE.

ALONE IN HIS HOTEL ROOM, HART THOUGHT HARD.

THAT'S IT . . . THOSE NAMES WERE SOME OF THE RICHEST FAMILIES IN THE GALAXY! NOW WHY SHOULD THEY HAVE COME TO THIS BACKWATER?

THERE'S SOMETHING ODD ABOUT THAT PLACE, BUT WHAT?

HART USED HIS SKILLS TO ENTER THE MEDICAL CENTRE UNDETECTED.

I MUST HAVE ANOTHER LOOK AT THAT ROOM.



IN THE HALL OF PLAQUES . . .

DARIUS P. NIVEN  
2090-2177

MARGEREN, MORGAN, NIVEN—  
ALL MULTIGALAXY TYCOONS.  
WHY DID THEY ALL DIE ON  
THIS PLANET?

JAT. MORGAN  
2101-2180

JASE MARGEREN  
2104-2182



BUT HART'S ARRIVAL HADN'T PASSED UNNOTICED.



INDEED I CAN! I CAN VOUCH THAT YOU KNOW TOO MUCH! A PITY. OR PERHAPS NOT. YOU MIGHT PROVE OF USE. AT LEAST, YOUR BODY MIGHT.









IN THE THEATRE —



WHILE THERE'S LIFE,  
THERE'S HOPE!

GIVE HIM A TRANQUILLISER.  
WE DON'T WANT HIM STRUGGLING.

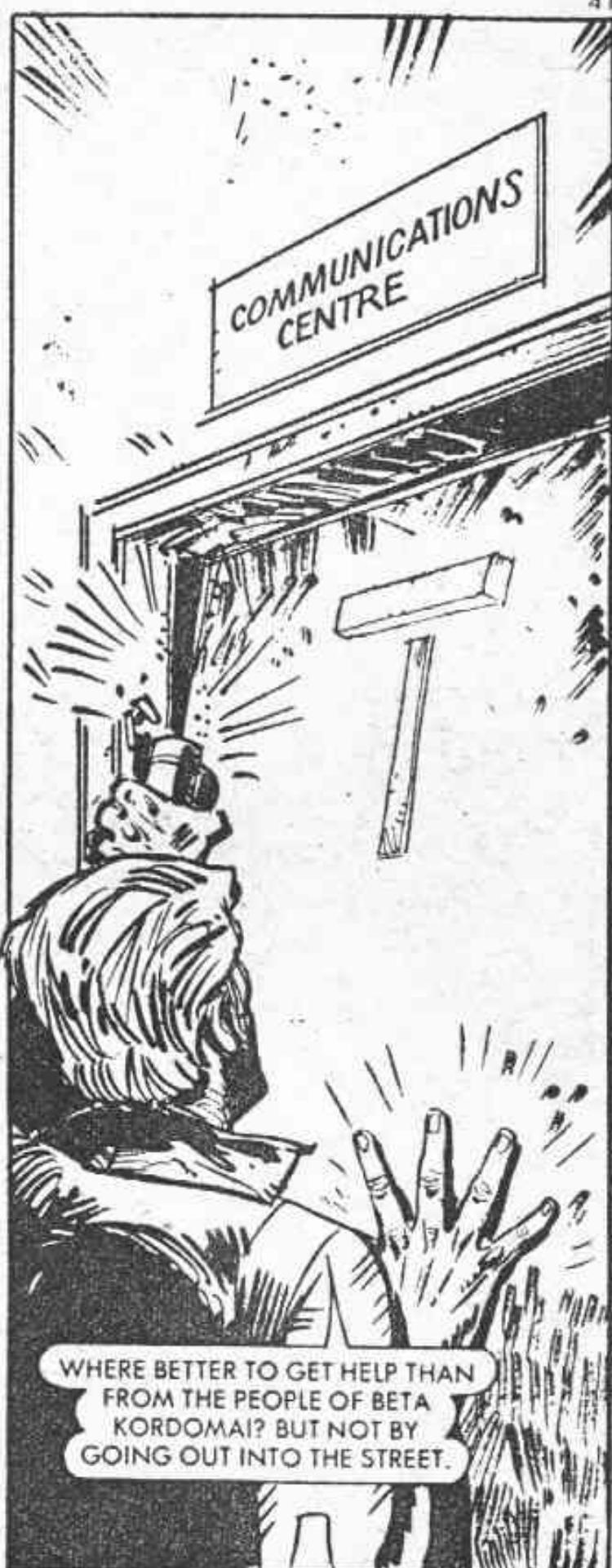




HART GRASPED THE SURGEON'S WINDPIPE —













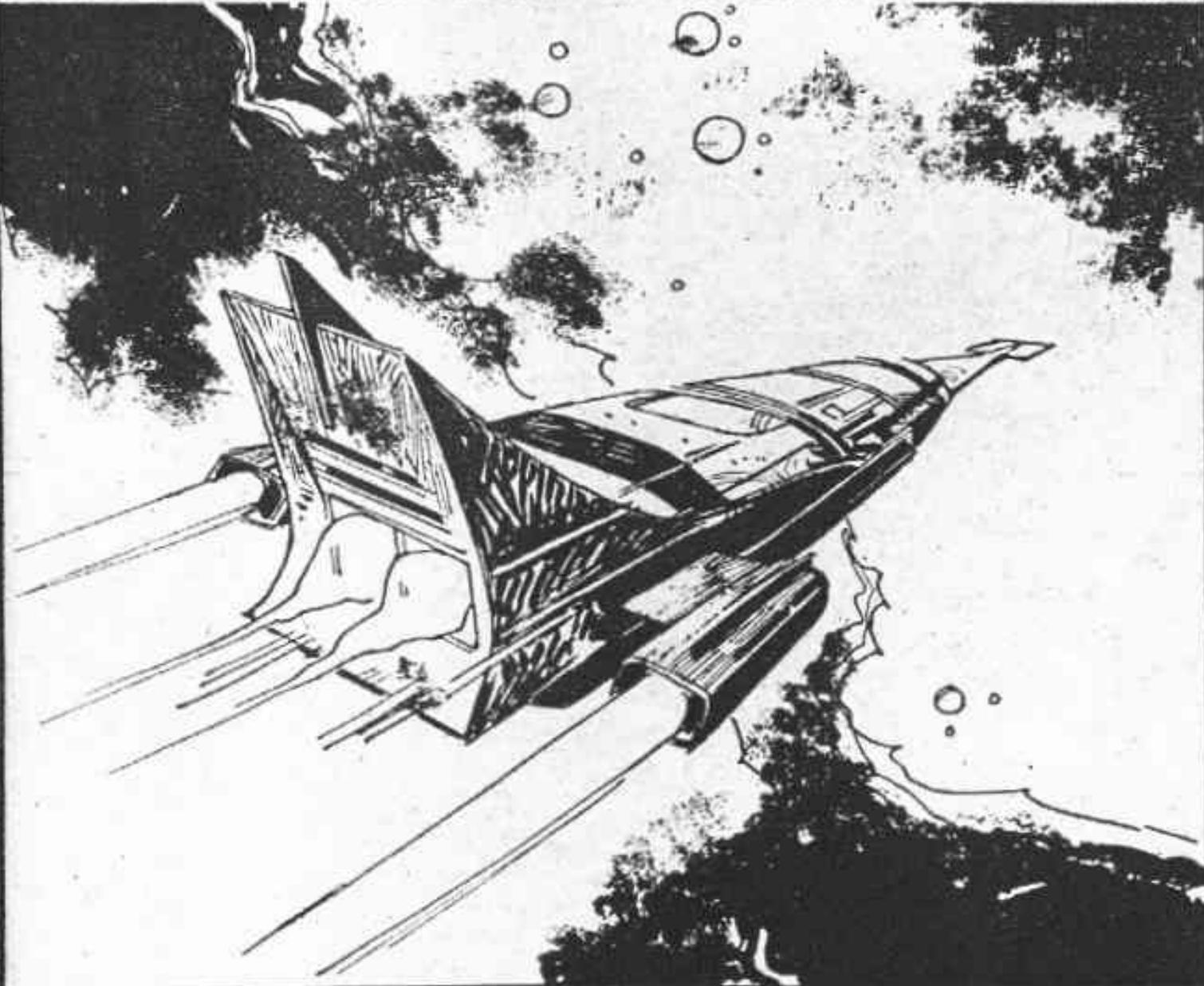
THE SECURITY SERVICE ARRIVED MANY SPACIALS LATER, AND HART FINALLY MET THE NEW MARGEREN.





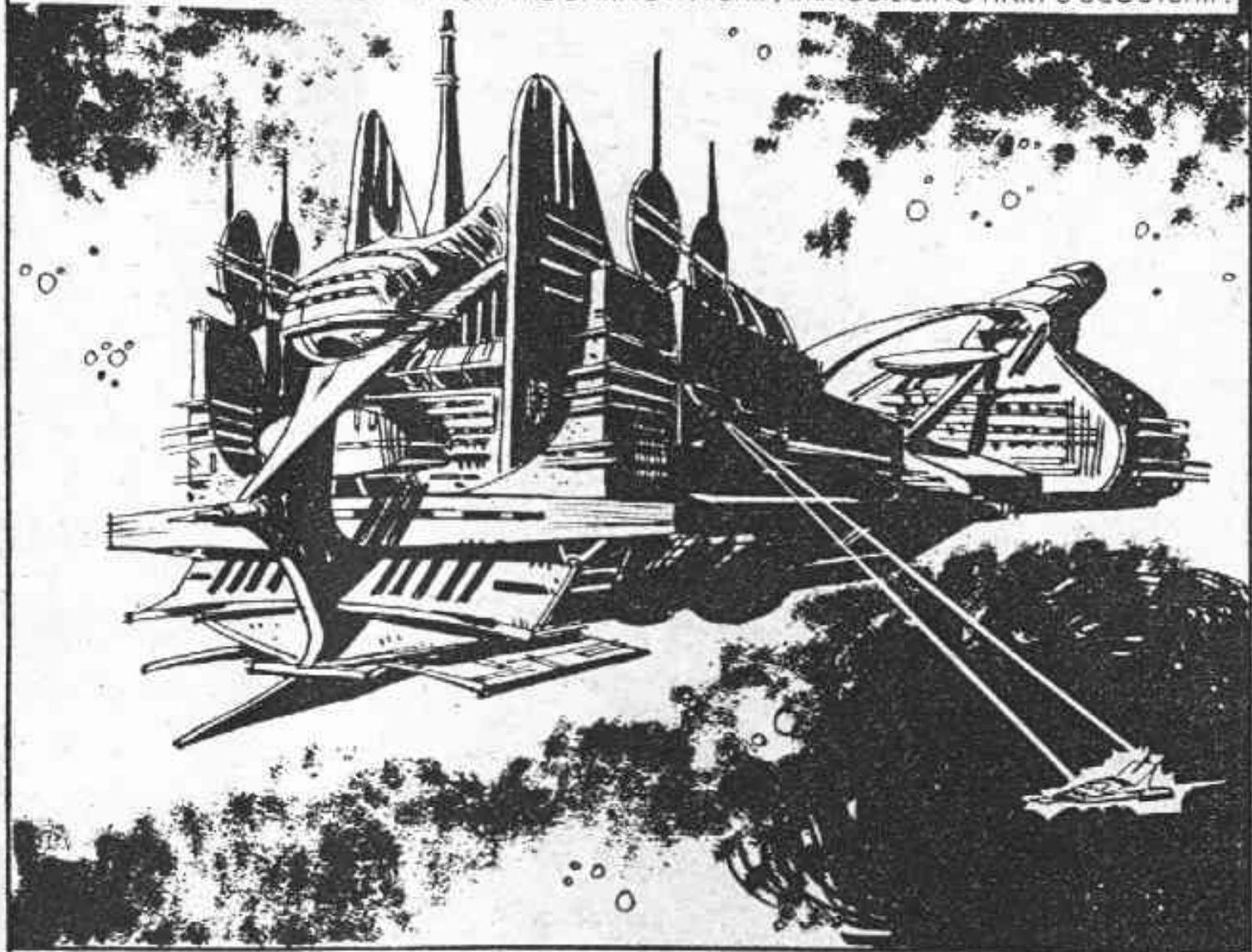
I HOPE YOU LIVE A LONG TIME,  
MARGEREN — TO SERVE YOUR LIFE  
SENTENCE.

BACK IN DEEP SPACE, HART'S COMPUTER SCANNED THE DATA BANKS FOR DETAILS OF THE MASK.

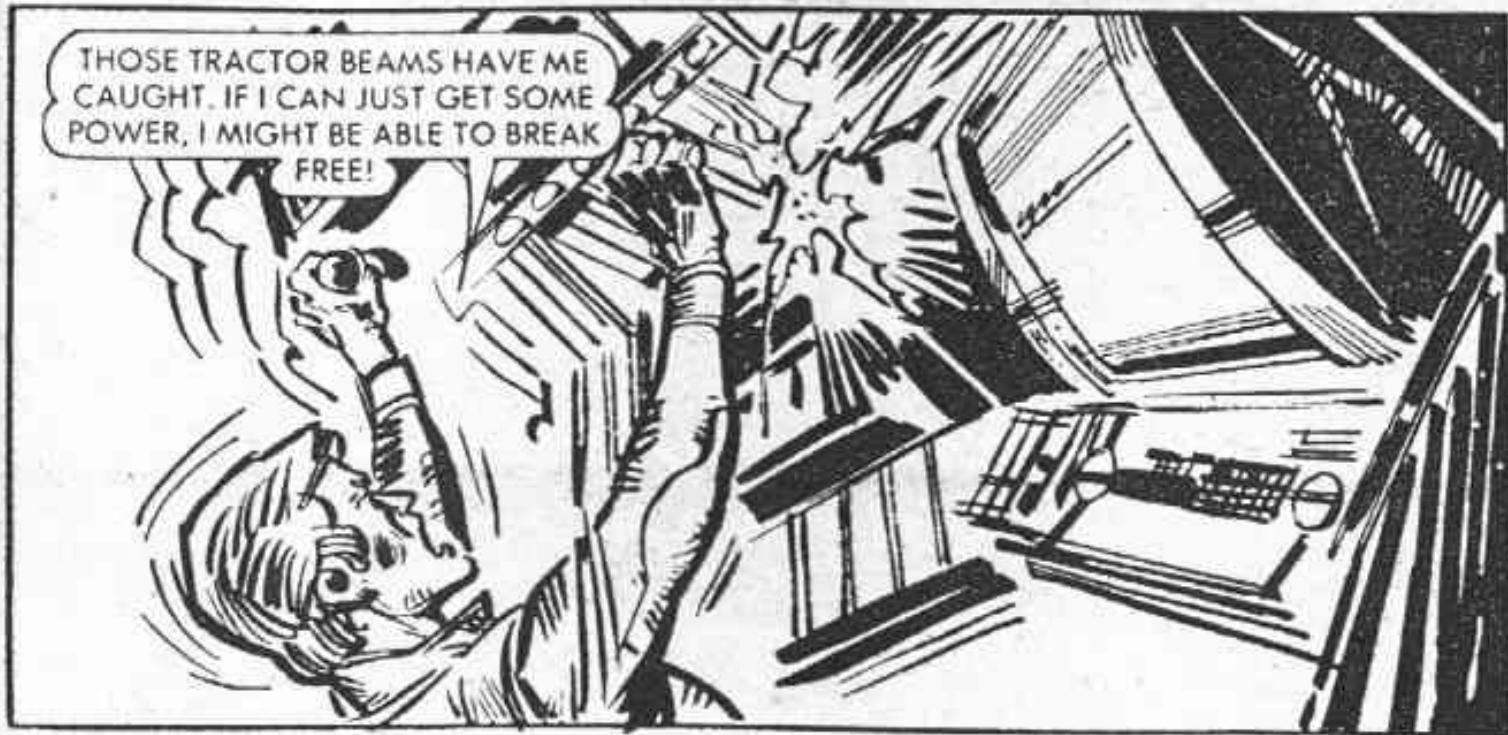




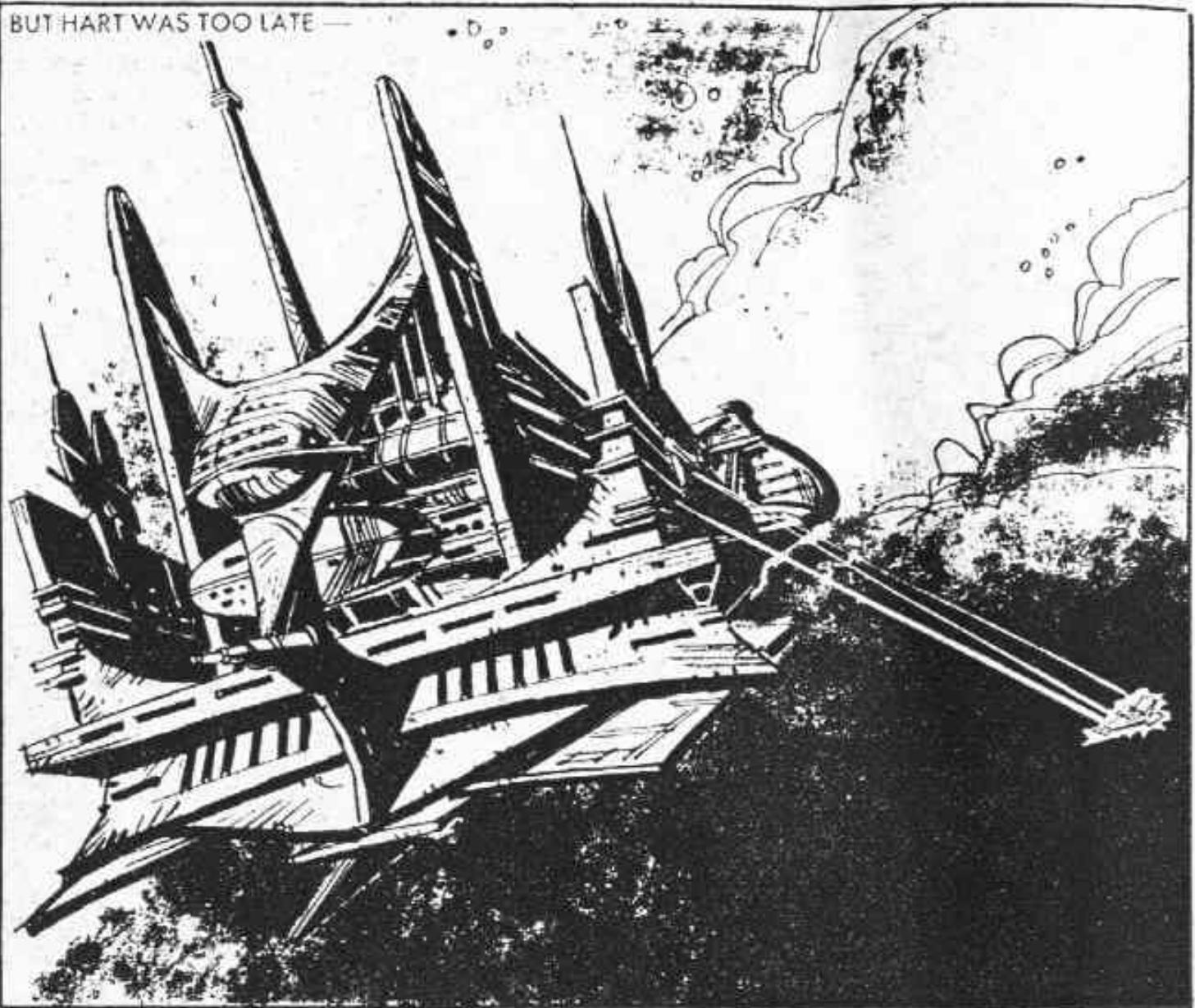
TRACTOR BEAMS ISSUED FORTH FROM THE UNKNOWN SHIP, IMMOBILISING HART'S SCOUTSHIP.



THOSE TRACTOR BEAMS HAVE ME CAUGHT. IF I CAN JUST GET SOME POWER, I MIGHT BE ABLE TO BREAK FREE!



BUT HART WAS TOO LATE —



AN IMMOBILISER BEAM ... PAIN ...



WHEN HART WOKE IT WAS ON A NEW WORLD.

MY NAME IS ORTO.  
CAN I HELP YOU?



WHERE AM I?

ON THE ENCLOSED WORLD  
RULED BY THE MASK.

SO THE MASK  
DOES EXIST!



HART TURNED —

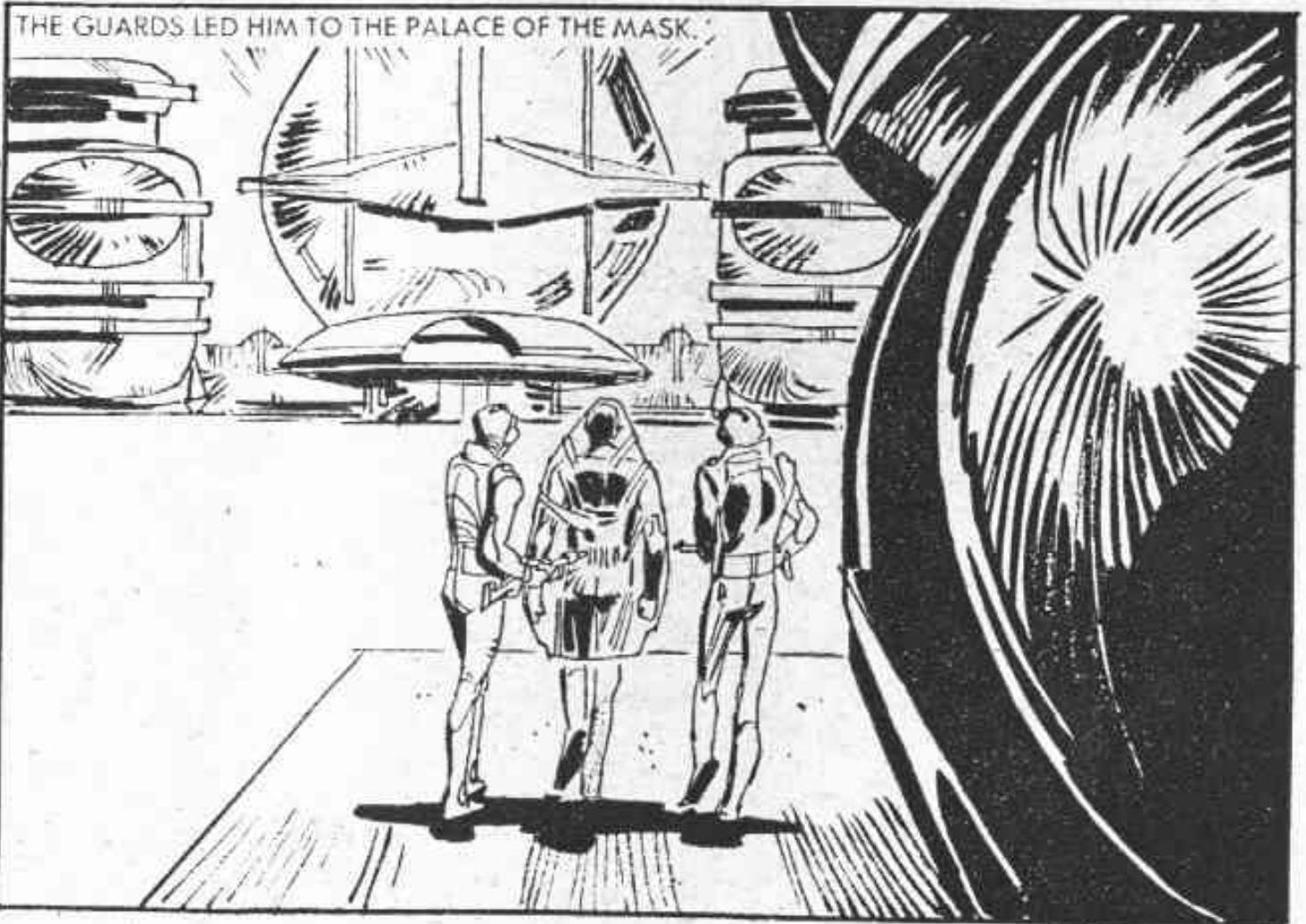


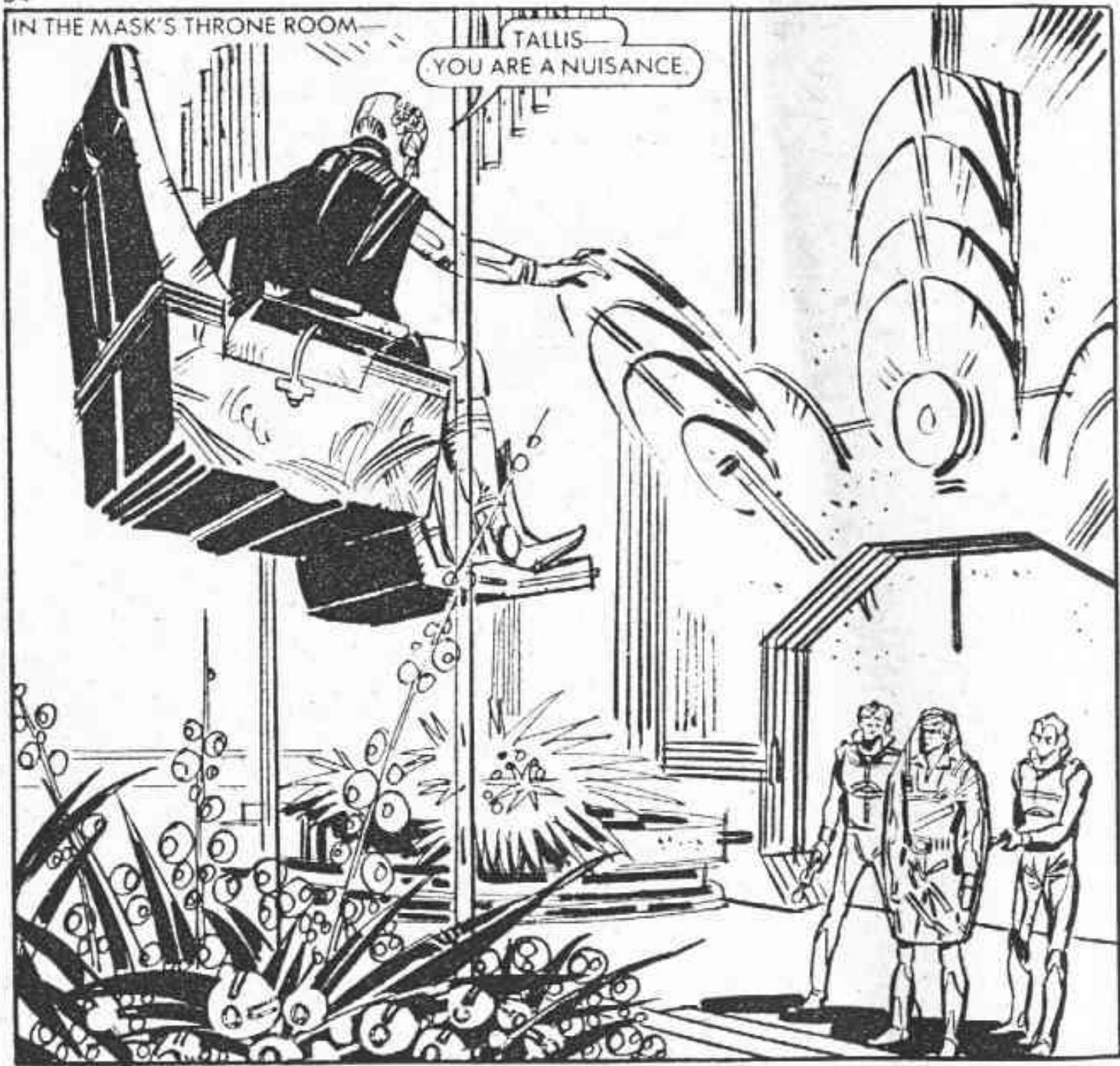
HART SET OFF FOR THE CRYSTAL CITY.



HE SOON FOUND OUT—





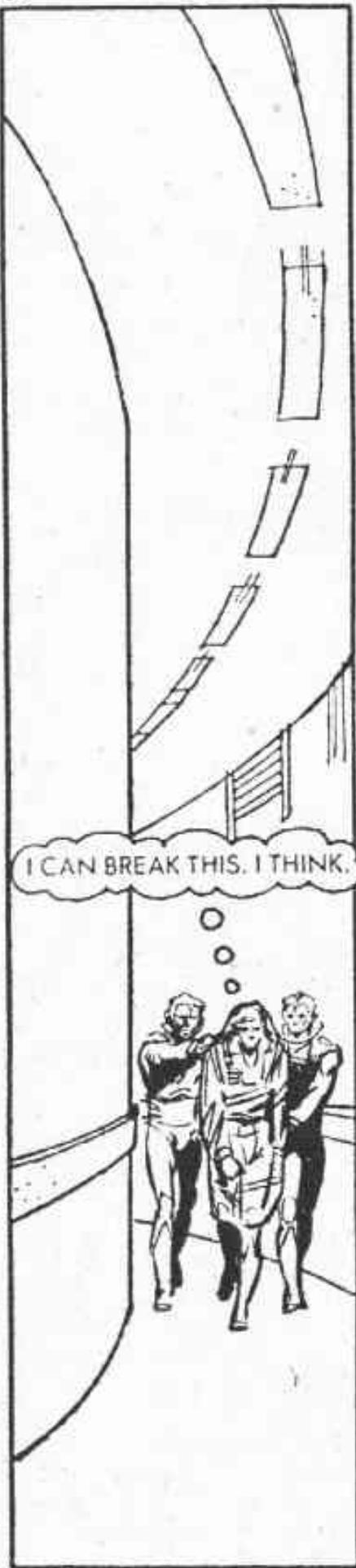


YOU ARE TALLIS THE HUNTER,  
WHO HAS ALREADY DESTROYED  
TWO MEMBERS OF THE GROUP  
OF THREE! YOUR HUNT IS OVER.  
DEATH IS YOUR REWARD.





HART USED HIS IMMENSE STRENGTH IN ONE ENORMOUS BURST.



THE GUARDS POSED LITTLE PROBLEM.



THE MASK IS ALMOST CERTAINLY INVULNERABLE IN HIS OWN PALACE. I'D BETTER TRY TO GET TO MY SCOUTSHIP. I COULD USE SOME HELP ON THIS!









THE MASK UNMASKED.

ORTO!



NOW, MASK—

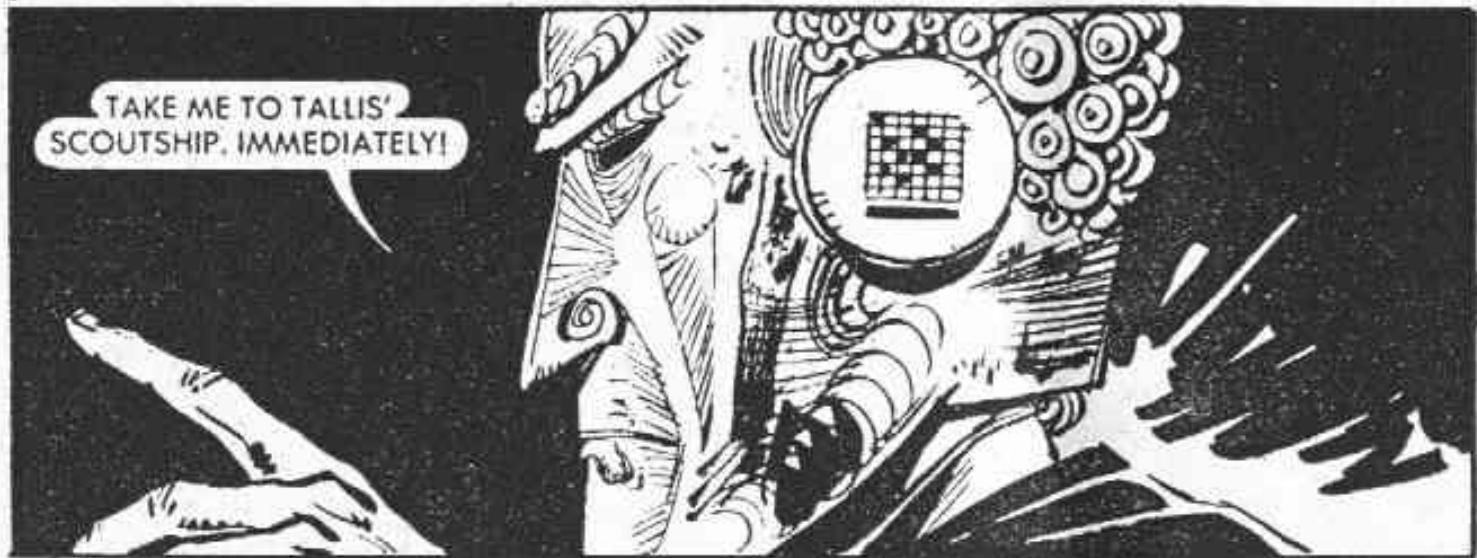
WHAT—



HART AND ORTO STRUGGLED  
FOR THE BLASTER!



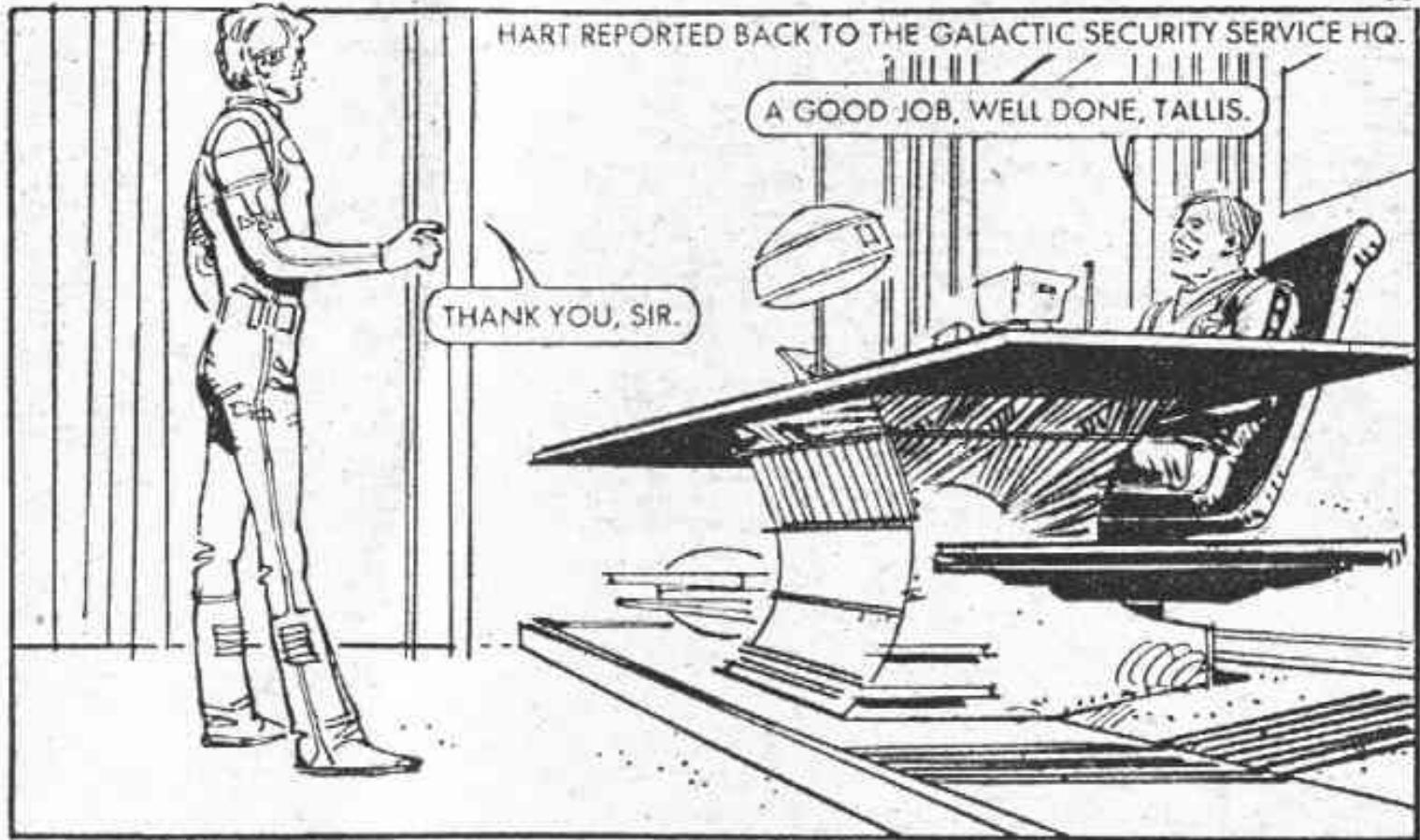




HART REPORTED BACK TO THE GALACTIC SECURITY SERVICE HQ.

A GOOD JOB, WELL DONE, TALLIS.

THANK YOU, SIR.



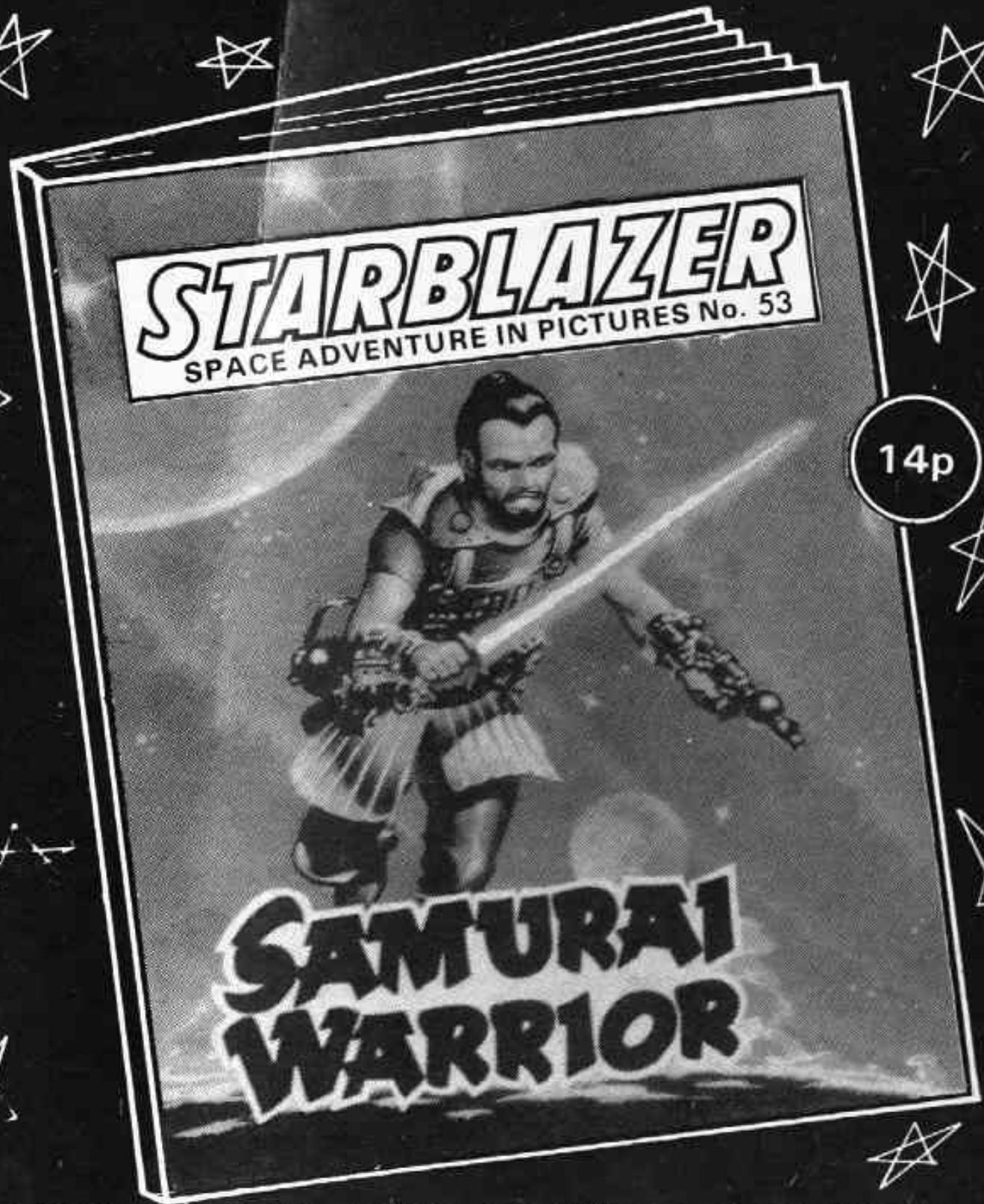
YOU SHALL NOT HAVE TO REPORT  
BACK TO ME IN FUTURE. THIS IS  
YOUR UNLIMITED AGENT PASS...



... YOU ARE NOW THE LAW—JUDGE,  
JURY, AND OFTEN EXECUTIONER. TEMPER  
YOUR POWERS WITH JUSTICE, TALLIS,  
AND GO OUT INTO THAT GREAT, BLACK,  
EVIL UNIVERSE TO MAKE IT A BETTER  
PLACE.)



# IT'S OUT OF THIS WORLD



THIS MONTH'S OTHER ACTION-  
PACKED STORY—NOW ON SALE

# STARBLAZERS 1 EARTH SATELLITES

(for personal)

.co.n

The first in a series of meteorological satellites, Tiros 1, was launched in April 1960. Illustrated is one of the latest, Tiros N. These satellites provide continuous day and night weather pictures and information of temperatures and humidity changes. It is part of a world-wide study of weather patterns. Launched by America.